## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15 STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-11 IO-13 /167 W --------014740 310232Z /70

R 301733Z MAY 78 FM AMEMBASSY LONDON TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6633 INFO ALL EC CAPITALS

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USOECD ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, UK, IT, EC

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR UK ACTION AGAINST STEEL IMPORTS FROM ITALY

- 1. THE BRITISH INDEPENDENT STEEL PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION HAS FORMALLY ASKED THE UK GOVERNMENT TO INVOKE ARTICLE 37 OF THE ECSC TREATY AGAINST IMPORTS OF ITALIAN STEEL WHICH ARE SAID TO BE DISRUPTING THE BRITISH ECONOMY. LETTERS WERE SENT MAY 25 TO SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRADE DELL AND SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDUSTRY VARLEY REQUESTING ACTION AGAINST THE 80 INDEPENDENT ITALIAN PRODUCERS IN THE BRESCIANI GROUP. THE GOVERNMENT HAS NOT YET DECIDED WHAT ITS RESPONSE WILL BE TO THE REQUEST, BUT THE DECISION WILL BE MADE AT THE CABINET LEVEL.
- 2. DEPARTMENT OF TRADE OFFICIALS TELL US THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS NOT LIKELY TO INVOKE ARTICLE 37, BUT THIS POSSIBILITY HAS NOT BEEN RULED OUT BECAUSE OF THE CONLIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SIDERABLE TROUBLE THAT THE ITALIAN IMPORTS ARE SAID TO BE CAUSING. THE ISSUE MAY BE RAISED AT THE NEXT EC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE ITALIANS ARE WILLING TO BE MORE REASONABLE ON THIS ISSUE THAN THEY HAVE BEEN IN THE PAST. FAILING PROGRESS AT THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNMENT MIGHT MORE SERIOUSLY CONSIDER USE OF ARTICLE 37.

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## Message Attributes

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